

Jesus is the Light of the World



WE PRAY TOGETHER



Hanoon Hor yev Vortvo yev Hokvooyn Srpo.

Jesus, you are the light of the whole world. You came to show us the way. Amen.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Do you have a cousin or a close friend? Do you look forward to seeing them at Sunday School or at family gatherings? Do you have play dates? When you are together, do you play without hurting each other's feelings? Do you share games and toys with each other? Do you help each other?

Your teacher will write your friend's name or cousin's name here. _____.



Did you know that Jesus had a cousin? His name was John. Jesus and John were cousins as well as good friends. When they grew older, John visited many towns to tell the people about Jesus. "Jesus has come to help you," he said. "He is the Son of God. Listen to him. He reminds us of God's love. God will forgive you if you are truly sorry for any wrong-doing."

GOD'S WORD TO US

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Jesus was with us from the beginning of time. He was with God the Father when he created the stars and the sun and the people and the animals of the world.

His cousin John told the people that Jesus was so full of love for the world that he was like a bright light, like a light that shines in the darkness.

Some people did not understand how important Jesus was, and so they stayed at home. But those who followed him became

God's special children. Everyone has a mother or a father, but God became the Father to everyone who believed in his Son. *John 1:1-13, 8:12*

WE LEARN ABOUT GOD

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God sent his only Son, Jesus, to remind us that God loves us. Jesus came to make the world a better place. Jesus' birth is good news to everyone.

Think about a person who loves you and helps you and forgives you. Draw a picture of that person in this space.



OUR ARMENIAN WAY

Jrakalooytz is a service that occurs the Saturday evening before Christmas and the Saturday evening before Easter. People go to church to celebrate the coming of these two great feasts. As part of the celebration, all of the candles and lanterns in the church are lit.



These Saturday night services are called Jrakalooytz. In Armenian the word for lantern is *jrak*, and *looytz* comes from the word “to light.”

WE CELEBRATE

Lanterns in the church,
flickering and bright,
Celebrate the feast.

LANTERNS IN THE CHURCH



Lan - terns in the church, fli - cker - ing and bright,



ce - le - brate the feast.



FAMILY PAGE

SHARING OUR FAITH

Today we talked about many things — the special relationship between two friends, the kind of friend who is there to help and to support, to share and to give. Such was the relationship between Jesus and his cousin John the Baptist.

The children learned that John's mission was to prepare the people for Jesus' coming.

The Jrakalooytz service is held on the night before the two great feasts of Christmas and Easter. The children made lanterns to symbolize all of the lights and candles that are lit at this evening service.

LIVING OUR FAITH

Why did God send Jesus? Through Jesus, God's message of love and forgiveness would be shared throughout the land, and it would resound forever and ever.

Choose an activity to share with your child.

1. Share the message of love. Send cards to loved ones.
2. As a family partake in the sacrament of Holy Communion.
3. Attend the Jrakalooytz service the evening before Armenian Christmas.

